Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 13

BY REPRESENTATIVE LITTLE

WATER/RESOURCES: Urges and requests the state of Arkansas to comply with the Red River Compact

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the state of Arkansas, the governor of Arkansas, and the Red River Compact Commission to take affirmative action to increase the flow of all streams to the rates agreed to in the Red River Compact.

WHEREAS, negotiations on the Red River Compact were authorized by congress in 1955; and

WHEREAS, Act No. 71 of the 1978 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana, authorized the state of Louisiana to enter the Compact; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, the Compact was signed by member states to resolve and prevent disputes over waters of the Red River Basin that are shared between the neighboring states of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas, and to assure the receipt by member states of adequate surface flows and releases; and

WHEREAS, the Red River Compact Commission consists of nine members, two members from each of the four states and a federal representative appointed by the President of the United States and serves as commission chairman; and

WHEREAS, various state and federal agencies support the compact commissioners in administering the agreement; and

WHEREAS, while provisions of the Red River Compact specifically state how much water each signatory state is allowed to develop or store on an interstate stream, the compact

generally provides a means of working out problems between member states in an orderly manner, thus preventing the likelihood of litigation in most cases; and

WHEREAS, Section 7.03(b) of the Compact sets specific flow rates for certain streams flowing from Arkansas to Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, that provision of the Compact provides that the state of Arkansas does not guarantee a minimum flow for streams in the area the Compact describes as Reach IV, but requires the state of Arkansas to take affirmative steps to regulate the diversions or flow in such a manner as to permit an equitable apportionment of the runoff of such streams to the state of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the state of Arkansas, the governor of Arkansas, and the Red River Compact Commission to take affirmative action to increase the flow of all streams to the rates agreed to in the Red River Compact.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the governor of the state of Arkansas and the members of the Red River Compact Commission.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Little HCR No. 13

Urges and requests the state of Arkansas, the governor of Arkansas, and the Red River Compact Commission to take affirmative action to increase the flow of all streams to the rates agreed to in the Red River Compact.